

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

*Plaintiff,*

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION; and MIGUEL CARDONA, in his  
official capacity as Secretary of the United States  
Department of Education,<sup>1</sup>

*Defendants.*

Civil Action No. 1:20-cv-11600-LTS

FARAH NOERAND,

*Plaintiff,*

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION; and MIGUEL CARDONA, in his  
official capacity as Secretary of the United States  
Department of Education,

*Defendants.*

Civil Action No. 1:20-cv-11271-LTS

**Government's Assented-To Motion to Hold Cases in Abeyance for 60 Days**

On January 20, 2021, new leadership assumed responsibility for the United States Department of Education. The officials are working to become familiar with the issues in these cases and are continuing to consider what actions they intend to take regarding these two cases.

---

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d), Miguel Cardona is substituted for Philip Rosenfelt.

For such reasons, Defendants respectfully request a sixty-day extension of the March 26, 2021, to file the parties' joint report regarding the schedule for the cases on or before May 25, 2021.

This is the second extension sought by Defendants in this case. Counsel for Plaintiffs have assented to this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathaniel R. Mendell  
Acting United States Attorney

/s/ Annapurna Balakrishna  
Annapurna Balakrishna (Bar Roll No. 655051)  
Assistant United States Attorney  
United States Attorney's Office  
1 Courthouse Way – Suite 9200  
Boston, MA 02210  
Telephone: 617-748-3111  
annapurna.balakrishna@usdoj.gov

**Rule 7.1 Certification**

I certify that I conferred with counsel before filing this motion.

/s/ Annapurna Balakrishna  
Annapurna Balakrishna  
Assistant United States Attorney